Telephone booth on Highways

†4623. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to install special telephone booths on the roadside of highways to help the victims of accidents on National Highways so that passengers can solve their different problems by contacting Control Room and in case of any accident, ambulance may reach the place of accident within twenty minutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the National Highways where such telephone booths are initially proposed to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir Emergency call boxes have already been installed on Kotputli-Ame and Jaipur-Kishangarh section of NH-8, Chennai Bypass Phase-I, Tada-Nellore section of NH-5 and Nandigama-Ibrahimpatnam section of NH-9 The system can be used by the road users to make alarm calls to the control centre in case of any accident/emergency/ problem on the road The operator at the control centre informs the patrolling vehicle and/or ambulance through dedicated radio communication to reach the accident/problem site. Emergency call boxes are also proposed to be installed on some of the sections on NH-1, NH-2, NH-5, NH-8 and Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway.

Four laning of NHs in Andhra Pradesh

4624. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of fifteen National Highways in Andhra Pradesh NH-5, NH-7 and a part of NH-9 had been handed over to NHAI for four laning under National Highway Development Project;

(b) if so, the details of the progress made on each of the above three highways;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of the allocation of funds and expenditure incurred on these three National Highways during the last three years and till date; and

(d) the time by when four laning of these National Highways is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The details of progress made on NH-5, NH-7 and a part of NH-9 handed over to the NHAI for four laning are as under:

NH No.	Total length handed over to NHAI (km.)	Four laning Completed (Kms.)	likely completion date
NH-5	1016.00	973.00	December, 2005
NH-7	762.00	39.00	December, 2007
NH-9	48.00	48.00	Already completed.

During the last three years, an expenditure of Rs. 3400.33 crore has been incurred on the above three National Highways.

Roads in Jammu and Kashmir

4625. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have decided to accord higher priority to road development in Jammu and Kashmir with the upgradation of several historic links such as Mughal Road; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only. However, Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced plan for reconstruction of roads in J&K comprising